26th November 1955]

Misappropriation of public funds

* 2917 *Q*—SRI C. KANDASAMY (on behalf of Sri A. K. Subbiah): Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the bill-collectors of Thiruthuraipoondi Panchayat Board have misappropriated public funds;

(*b*) if so, how much; and

(*c*) the action taken against them.

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYATCHI: (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) Rs. 4,619-6-6. Out of this a sum of Rs. 3,753-8-6 has been recovered.

(*c*) Action is being taken for the recovery of the balance of the amount and also for proceeding against the bill-collector criminally and departmentally for the misappropriation and also against the Panchayat Executive Officer responsible for allowing the misappropriation.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM: What is the amount of deposit that persons are asked to pay when they are entertained as bill-collectors?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYATCHI: I want notice.

MR. SPEAKER: Question time is over.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE HON. SPEAKER.

(1) MESSEAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

MR. SPEAKER: I have to announce to the House the following message, dated the 25th November 1955, received from the Governor of Madras:— 10 a.m.

"In pursuance of article 207, clause (1) read with article 199 (1) (*d*) of the Constitution of India, I, Shri Sri Prakasa, Governor of Madras, hereby give my recommendation to the introduction in the Madras Legislative Assembly of the Madras Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 1955, and in pursuance of clause (3) of article 207, I also recommend to that Assembly the consideration of the said Bill."

(2) MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL

MR. SPEAKER: I have also to announce to the House the following message, dated the 25th November 1955, received from the Hon. the Chairman, Madras Legislative Council:—

"In accordance with rule 130 of the Madras Council Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Preservation of Private Forests (Amendment) Bill, 1955 (L.A. Bill No. 34 of 1955), as passed and agreed to by the Council on the 25th November 1955 without any amendment and signed by me."